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IDAHO JOB, WAGE RECOVERY IS SLOW, STEADY

Idaho's job recovery began showing signs of life in late 2011 and picked up in 2013 when year-over-year monthly growth rates exceeded 2 percent, according to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. In April 2013 Idaho had the third highest year-over-year job growth at 3.1 percent and the fourth highest in May at 3.1 percent.

Through the 12 months that ended in September 2013, Idaho recovered 21,000 of the 56,000 jobs it lost to the recession. While that recovery rate was 40th among the states, it underscored the slow job growth the state experienced during the first several years following the recession.

North Dakota and Alaska lost no jobs during the recession and have continued growing since. Of the other 48 states, 12 regained prerecession job levels by September 2013 led by Texas, which generated more than 15 times the number of jobs it lost.

Idaho should reach its prerecession job levels in the first half of 2015, however the mix of jobs based on average wage has changed.

In 2007, there were 54,000 Idaho jobs in sectors with an average wage of more than \$50,000; 307,000 jobs in sectors where wages averaged \$30,000 to \$50,000 and the rest – about 300,000 – were in sectors averaging under \$30,000 a year.

Idaho's total payroll was nearly \$22.2 billion in 2007, when the expansion peaked. Sixty-two percent of that covered wages in sectors where the average was in the \$30,000 to \$50,000 middle-income range. Sixteen percent of the payroll covered sectors with average wages of more than \$50,000, and the remaining 22 percent was in sectors averaging less than \$30,000.

By 2010, when Idaho’s job loss finally bottomed out, the number of jobs in the middle range dropped to 248,000, from more than 46 percent of all jobs to 41 percent. At the same time, jobs in sectors with average wages above and below the middle range increased. Sectors in the top bracket added more than 16,000 jobs increasing from 8 percent of all jobs in 2007 to nearly 12 percent in 2010. Sectors in the bottom bracket lost fewer than 2,000 jobs so increasing the share of total jobs in that bracket from 45 percent to 47 percent.

The shift in payroll allocation was even greater. The top bracket sectors claimed 21 percent of payroll, up five percentage points, while the sectors in the bottom bracket increased their share from 22 percent to 31 percent.

Sectors in the middle range declined in the percentage of payroll, falling from 62 percent in 2007 to just under 48 percent in 2010.

Idaho's economy picked up another 21,000 jobs between 2010 and the 12 months ending September 2013, but the percentage of jobs and payroll among the three average-wage brackets remained essentially unchanged, leaving the recession’s mark on middle range sectors like construction, most manufacturing, trucking, hospitals and clinics and government.

In providing this analysis, the average annual wages for the 98 industry subsectors of the North American Industry Classification System for 2010 and the four quarters through September 2013 – the most recent period wage data were available — were deflated to 2007 dollars. The statewide payroll and total unemployment-insurance-covered jobs were allocated based on average sector wages into above \$50,000, \$30,000 to \$50,000 and under \$30,000. Over 90 percent of all jobs in Idaho are covered by the unemployment insurance system.

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Percentage of Total Jobs, Wages By Average Sector Wage						
	Jobs			Wages		
	2007	2010	2012-13	2007	2010	2012-13
Above \$50,000	8.2%	11.6%	12.0%	16.4%	21.2%	21.6%
\$30,000 to \$50,000	46.4%	41.0%	40.5%	62.0%	47.9%	47.7%
Under \$30,000	45.3%	47.4%	47.4%	21.6%	30.9%	30.6%
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages						

See related table on page 3.

Idaho Employment By Subsector by Average Wage, Employment Expansion, Recession, Recovery						
Sector	Average Wage In 2007 Dollars			Average Employment		
	2007	2010	Q4-2012-Q3-2013	2007	2010	Q4-2012-Q3-2013
111-Crop Production	\$24,730	\$26,243	\$27,144	7,862	7,619	8,153
112-Animal Production	\$26,036	\$26,246	\$26,134	8,429	8,772	9,322
113-Forestry and Logging	\$39,167	\$37,477	\$38,927	1,851	1,262	1,334
114-Fishing, Hunting and Trapping	\$17,925	\$25,274	\$20,259	87	49	59
115-Support Activities for Agriculture, Forestry	\$24,475	\$23,271	\$23,047	3,870	3,893	3,876
211-Oil, Gas Extraction	\$109,000	\$137,859	\$109,653	19	28	32
212-Mining (except Oil and Gas)	\$54,995	\$62,655	\$61,148	2,425	1,987	2,207
213-Mining Support Activities	\$58,968	\$66,179	\$87,712	209	276	333
221-Utilities	\$50,781	\$60,042	\$59,621	2,813	3,486	3,494
236-Construction of Buildings	\$34,687	\$35,166	\$32,767	13,115	7,034	7,310
237-Heavy, Civil Engineering Construction	\$67,196	\$52,498	\$51,113	7,331	6,039	5,155
238-Specialty Trade Contractors	\$31,757	\$31,490	\$31,124	32,808	18,984	19,590
311-Food Mfg.	\$34,582	\$35,820	\$36,404	15,120	15,407	16,265
312-Beverage and Tobacco Product Mfg.	\$30,709	\$30,466	\$27,571	482	574	628
313-Textile Mills	\$23,756	\$32,399	\$23,598	53	68	47
314-Textile Product Mills	\$23,337	\$26,936	\$23,565	235	180	203
315-Apparel Mfg.	\$21,740	\$24,834	\$29,485	268	307	434
316-Leather and Allied Product Mfg.	\$24,503	\$27,784	\$23,454	126	117	84
321-Wood Product Mfg.	\$35,491	\$35,238	\$33,976	7,766	4,530	5,529
322-Paper Mfg.	\$54,451	\$56,318	\$56,563	1,704	1,554	1,813
323-Printing and Related Support Activities	\$28,502	\$28,276	\$27,327	1,908	1,278	1,172
324-Petroleum, Coal Products Mfg.	\$27,225	\$32,198	\$283,998	19	31	33
325-Chemical Mfg.	\$50,533	\$51,476	\$52,376	2,266	2,203	2,573
326-Plastics and Rubber Products Mfg.	\$30,680	\$30,911	\$31,225	1,723	1,503	1,724
327-Nonmetallic Mineral Product Mfg.	\$43,732	\$37,368	\$38,177	1,826	1,250	1,121
331-Primary Metal Mfg.	\$40,342	\$36,584	\$36,620	586	692	716
332-Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	\$35,761	\$36,496	\$34,541	4,660	4,438	5,186
333-Machinery Mfg.	\$39,375	\$40,427	\$39,966	2,986	2,472	2,776
334-Computer, Electronic Product Mfg.	\$77,014	\$86,829	\$80,589	16,220	10,586	11,395
335-Electrical Equipment, Appliance, Component Mfg.	\$43,681	\$44,135	\$39,905	517	621	908
336-Transportation Equipment Mfg.	\$36,311	\$36,615	\$37,847	3,543	2,368	2,952
337-Furniture and Related Product Mfg.	\$28,748	\$28,277	\$26,953	2,463	1,404	1,472
339-Miscellaneous Mfg.	\$35,321	\$36,692	\$35,507	1,803	1,541	1,666
423-Wholesale Trade, Durable Goods	\$48,091	\$46,727	\$46,018	13,017	11,118	12,275
424-Wholesale Trade, Nondurable Goods	\$36,935	\$38,471	\$38,959	12,078	12,099	12,880
425-Electronic Markets, Agents, Brokers	\$57,794	\$55,484	\$54,514	2,983	2,615	2,682
441-Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	\$38,223	\$34,595	\$36,434	12,545	10,392	11,020
442-Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	\$29,364	\$25,947	\$26,079	3,045	2,201	2,093
443-Electronics and Appliance Stores	\$30,979	\$33,860	\$30,907	2,754	2,492	2,675
444-Bldg Material, Garden Equip & Supplies Dealers	\$29,290	\$26,250	\$25,669	9,607	6,842	6,794
445-Food and Beverage Stores	\$21,743	\$19,832	\$19,383	13,075	12,357	12,782
446-Health and Personal Care Stores	\$29,739	\$29,915	\$27,429	3,145	3,038	3,205
447-Gasoline Stations	\$15,198	\$16,701	\$16,448	5,511	5,819	6,095
448-Clothing, Clothing Accessories Stores	\$14,653	\$13,989	\$14,019	4,787	4,406	4,220
451-Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, Music Stores	\$16,846	\$16,065	\$16,010	4,698	4,454	4,293
452-General Merchandise Stores	\$19,771	\$20,295	\$19,591	17,452	16,141	17,184
453-Miscellaneous Store Retailers	\$18,992	\$19,269	\$18,217	5,036	4,449	4,549
454-Nonstore Retailers	\$39,678	\$41,407	\$43,761	2,478	3,036	3,408
481-Air Transportation	\$34,904	\$38,071	\$43,178	926	823	930
482-Rail Transportation	\$30,582	\$40,240	\$0	11	3	0
483-Water Transportation	\$46,557	\$37,797	\$24,920	3	3	6
484-Truck Transportation	\$35,042	\$33,660	\$33,674	9,462	8,741	9,296
485-Transit, Ground Passenger Transportation	\$17,224	\$17,826	\$17,537	2,284	2,395	2,182
486-Pipeline Transportation	\$81,834	\$86,556	\$86,565	67	70	63
487-Scenic, Sightseeing Transportation	\$15,870	\$14,824	\$12,491	338	308	256
488-Support Activities for Transportation	\$34,684	\$35,307	\$33,834	1,473	1,498	1,536
491-Postal Service	\$46,075	\$46,251	\$43,783	2,944	2,659	2,546
492-Couriers and Messengers	\$33,611	\$36,152	\$37,248	2,197	1,817	1,816
493-Warehousing and Storage	\$31,187	\$31,485	\$32,293	1,365	1,607	1,539
511-Publishing Industries	\$38,581	\$35,413	\$35,491	3,484	2,795	2,613
512-Motion Picture, Sound Recording Industries	\$11,331	\$11,910	\$10,655	947	866	822
515-Broadcasting (except Internet)	\$34,919	\$33,064	\$33,435	1,753	1,548	1,362
517-Telecommunications	\$44,807	\$45,788	\$47,456	3,980	3,341	2,992
518-ISP's, Search Portals, Data Processing	\$50,734	\$53,998	\$51,366	357	477	519
519-Other Information Services	\$28,167	\$39,524	\$39,891	996	1,307	1,645
521-Monetary Authorities - Central Bank	\$113,168	\$32,648	\$32,054	2	11	5
522-Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	\$42,429	\$38,721	\$42,254	11,834	10,957	11,329
523-Securities, Commodity Contracts, Other Financial Investments	\$85,416	\$74,409	\$77,731	1,433	1,688	1,657
524-Insurance Carriers, Related Activities	\$45,113	\$45,729	\$45,247	8,591	7,692	7,920
525-Funds, Trusts, Other Financial Vehicles	\$36,428	\$48,411	\$73,878	123	87	49
531-Real Estate	\$30,406	\$25,905	\$26,382	6,276	5,093	4,990
532-Rental and Leasing Services	\$24,003	\$25,133	\$27,022	2,695	1,878	1,775
533-Lessors of Nonfinancial Intangible Assets	\$56,394	\$54,247	\$57,095	67	70	80
541-Professional, Scientific, Technical Services	\$49,343	\$52,022	\$50,027	33,778	31,661	30,767
551-Management of Companies	\$81,378	\$74,473	\$72,120	7,847	5,861	5,567
561-Administrative and Support Services	\$23,416	\$23,416	\$22,521	39,968	34,867	37,394
562-Waste Management, Remediation Services	\$48,266	\$49,049	\$45,701	2,307	2,599	2,435
611-Educational Services	\$29,682	\$29,563	\$28,573	54,615	55,815	55,684
621-Ambulatory Health Care Services	\$41,099	\$38,900	\$34,965	26,816	29,589	30,749
622-Hospitals	\$41,754	\$45,400	\$46,700	23,449	26,062	29,208
623-Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	\$21,704	\$21,025	\$20,857	11,894	13,337	13,755
624-Social Assistance	\$16,920	\$16,695	\$16,526	11,906	13,064	13,053
711-Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, Related Industries	\$22,706	\$27,679	\$18,312	902	1,038	1,163
712-Museums, Historical Sites, Similar Institutions	\$32,011	\$31,964	\$32,209	344	375	428
713-Amusement, Gambling, Recreation Industries	\$17,816	\$16,498	\$16,104	9,463	8,908	9,452
721-Accommodation	\$16,932	\$15,484	\$15,361	9,077	8,347	8,893
722-Food Services, Drinking Places	\$11,402	\$11,999	\$11,750	45,865	41,695	44,926
811-Repair and Maintenance	\$27,417	\$27,344	\$26,592	7,047	6,327	6,481
812-Personal, Laundry Services	\$17,292	\$16,794	\$17,016	4,485	4,341	4,226
813-Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, Similar Orgs	\$22,683	\$23,028	\$22,694	4,638	4,610	4,724
814-Private Households	\$19,882	\$16,847	\$17,584	768	919	855
921-Govt Exec, Legis, Other Gen Support	\$34,113	\$35,042	\$34,180	20,786	21,496	21,499
922-Govt Justice, Public Order, Safety Activities	\$39,567	\$38,760	\$38,033	4,226	4,444	4,535
923-Govt Administration of Human Resource Programs	\$38,385	\$37,644	\$38,308	4,227	4,247	4,221
924-Govt Administration of Environmental Programs	\$51,034	\$49,743	\$50,770	7,026	7,159	6,910
925-Govt Housing, Urban Planning, Community Development	\$41,223	\$42,333	\$42,584	220	239	252
926-Govt Administration of Economic Programs	\$45,050	\$41,835	\$44,180	4,556	5,146	4,276
928-Govt National Security, International Affairs	\$53,778	\$53,724	\$49,998	1,549	1,589	1,666
All sectors	\$33,543	\$33,190	\$32,538	660,670	605,474	626,761

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

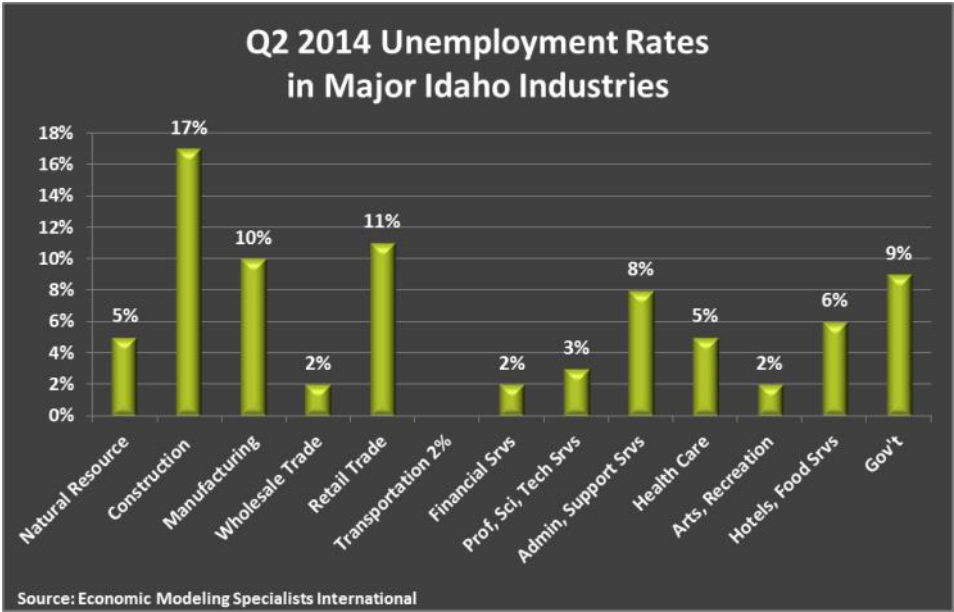
INTERNET SALES SLOW RETAIL RECOVERY

In 2013 retail sales in the United States rose to \$4.53 trillion, an increase of 16 percent from the prior year. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, retail sales made up 27 percent of the nation’s gross domestic product in 2013, up from 26.8 percent in 2012.

That kind of activity as the economic recovery continues would presumably lead to an increase in retail jobs, but unemployment among Idaho retail workers is much higher than the 5.2 percent jobless rate for the overall economy in March.

According to second quarter 2014 estimates by Economic Modeling Specialists International, several industry sectors are enjoying unemployment rates well below the economy wide rate. Unemployment for utilities is at 1 percent, transportation and warehousing at 2 percent, wholesale trade at 2 percent, mining at 1 percent, information at 1 percent, finance and insurance at 2 percent, real estate at 1 percent and professional, scientific and technical services is at 3 percent.

Construction with 17 percent unemployment and manufacturing with a 10 percent unemployment rate were among the industry sectors hardest hit during the past recession.

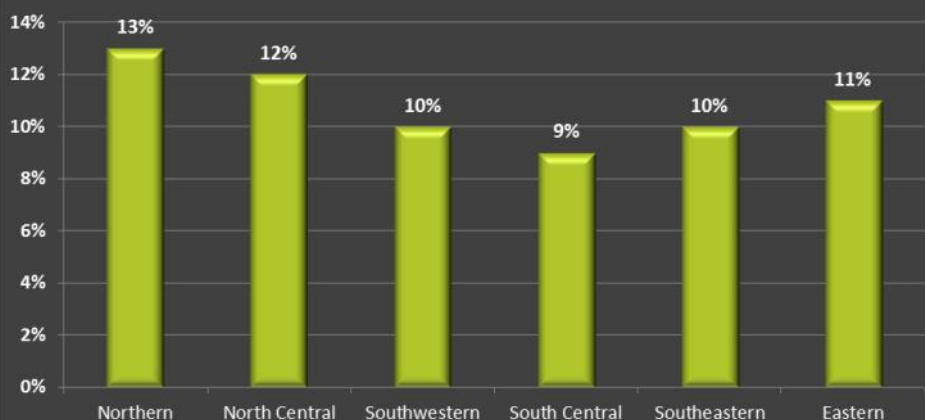


Unemployment for retail during the second quarter of 2014 was at 11 percent, with high retail unemployment in all six regions of the state. Employment in the retail sector fell from 83,300 in 2007 to 77,500 in 2013.

Idaho is not alone in high unemployment in the retail industry. Nationally, unemployment rate for retail trade is 10 percent, only one point lower than the Idaho rate. Neighboring states likewise struggle to provide employment opportunities for workers with experience in retail sales.

High national and regional unemployment rates for retail indicate the cause is not isolated to Idaho. Internet sellers such as Amazon.com, eBay and overstock.com may be having an effect. Many chains such as Wal-Mart, Target, JC Penny, Best Buy and Sears are also increasing the amount of retail

Retail Unemployment Rate By Region

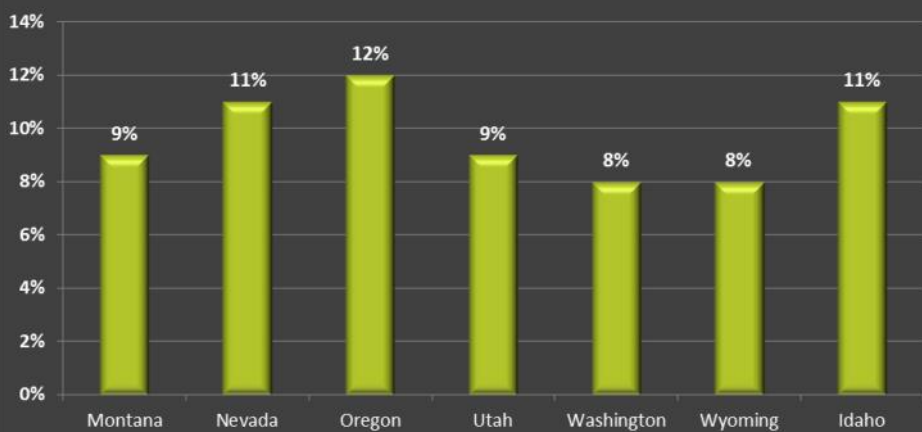


Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International

business they conduct via their websites, and all of these Internet transactions reduce the need for retail staff at brick and mortar locations.

Online retail trends are expected to increase, while retail employment opportunities will continue to decline, forcing people who traditionally work in retail to seek training or education for other occupations in the evolving global economy.

Retail Unemployment by State



Source: Economic Modeling Systems International

Find more information on the programs and services available to help displaced on labor.idaho.gov/jobseekers.

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SOME IDAHO INDUSTRIES MORE APT TO HIRE OLDER WORKERS

The aging workforce will have an overarching effect on the economy in the years to come, but older workers are feeling the impact now. With the effects of the last recession still lingering, knowing which industries are more apt to hire older workers is critical to today's job seekers.

Total Hires to Stable Jobs, 55 to 64 Q2 2012 - Q1 2013

NAICS	Industry	Hires	Avg Monthly Earnings
	All NAICS Subsectors	12,622	\$2,466
561	Administrative and Support Services	1,142	\$1,943
611	Educational Services	981	\$1,597
621	Ambulatory Health Care Services	767	\$2,174
541	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	669	\$3,895
484	Truck Transportation	536	\$3,018
722	Food Services and Drinking Places	470	\$1,064
623	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	455	\$2,037
238	Specialty Trade Contractors	454	\$2,890
624	Social Assistance	408	\$1,191
622	Hospitals	369	\$4,420

Source: Quarterly Workforce Indicators

The U.S Census Bureau's Quarterly Workforce Indicators combine employment and earnings data from state unemployment insurance tax files with demographic information. Looking at new hires for jobs lasting at least three months between the second quarter of 2012 and the first quarter of 2013, the administrative and support services industry hired the most workers between the ages of 55 and 64. This industry includes both call centers and temporary employment agencies, which have seen payrolls rise in the past few years in Idaho. Education was next, making up almost 8 percent of total hires followed by ambulatory health care. The health care subsectors were prominent throughout with new hires at hospitals earning the most at over \$4,400 per month on average.

Total Hires to Stable Jobs, 65 or Older Q2 2012 - Q1 2013

NAICS	Industry	Hires	Avg Monthly Earnings
0	All NAICS Subsectors	3,527	\$1,719
611	Educational Services	257	\$1,014
561	Administrative and Support Services	252	\$1,309
722	Food Services and Drinking Places	236	\$829
112	Animal Production	232	\$2,079
621	Ambulatory Health Care Services	203	\$1,346
541	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	148	\$3,819
238	Specialty Trade Contractors	145	\$2,264
484	Truck Transportation	140	\$2,605
624	Social Assistance	135	\$913
111	Crop Production	111	\$1,403

Source: Quarterly Workforce Indicators

For workers age 65 and older, the data showed some differences. While education and administrative and support services sectors ranked highest, agricultural industries made an appearance. Almost 10 percent of all new hires to stable employment who were 65 years old or older were in animal and crop production. While ambulatory health care appeared on the list, no other health care sectors surfaced. Wages were also notably lower, but that may be due to more part-time workers in this age group, and they were not separated out.

Percent of Total Hires to Stable Jobs, 55-64 Q2 2012 - Q1 2013

NAICS	Industry	Percent	Avg Monthly Earnings
	All NAICS Subsectors	7.2%	\$2,466
485	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	19.1%	\$1,265
484	Truck Transportation	16.5%	\$3,018
814	Private Households	14.6%	\$1,570
481	Air Transportation	14.5%	\$3,858
926	Administration of Economic Programs	13.9%	\$2,362
113	Forestry and Logging	12.1%	\$2,588
924	Administration of Environmental Quality Programs	12.0%	\$1,521
531	Real Estate	11.8%	\$1,734
237	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	11.5%	\$6,355
	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component		
335	Manufacturing	11.0%	\$4,983

Source: Quarterly Workforce Indicators

The concentration of hires in each industry may point job seekers to areas that seek out more experienced workers. Transportation in Idaho had the largest percentage of new hires in the 55 to 64 age group with transit and ground transportation at the top. Two government sectors also ranked high. Heavy and civil engineering had 11.5 percent of new hires in this age bracket and also paid the highest average monthly wage at \$6,400.

Percent of Total Hires to Stable Jobs, 65+ Q2 2012 - Q1 2013

NAICS	Industry	Percent	Avg Monthly Earnings
	All NAICS Subsectors	2.0%	\$1,719
485	Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	10.7%	\$890
112	Animal Production	9.2%	\$2,079
115	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	7.6%	\$1,329
111	Crop Production	6.3%	\$1,403
484	Truck Transportation	4.3%	\$2,605
924	Administration of Environmental Quality Programs	4.2%	\$1,013
493	Warehousing and Storage	3.6%	\$1,458
237	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	3.6%	\$7,413
531	Real Estate	3.4%	\$1,219
532	Rental and Leasing Services	3.3%	\$1,677

Source: Quarterly Workforce Indicators

In the oldest age bracket of 65 years and older, transportation again had a higher concentration of new hires, but agriculture, which was high in total new hires, also ranked near the top for this age group. Heavy and civil engineering was highest and paid on average \$7,400 per month.

An aging workforce will impact many areas of the economy, but it is also a resource for companies that want to make use of these workers' years of experience.

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WOMEN WAITING LONGER TO START FAMILIES

Women in Idaho – and the rest of the nation – are waiting longer to marry and have children, resulting in fewer babies, more time for education and more single parents than in past generations.

Demographic trends affect consumer spending, household economics, work-family balance and the long-term growth and composition of the labor force. Below are some of the trends for births and marriages in Idaho and the rest of the United States.

Recession exacerbates long-term decline in birth rates

The number of babies born in the United States remained flat in 2012, the first time in five years it did not significantly decline. From 2007 to 2011, the fertility rate – the number of babies born per 1,000 women ages 15 to 44 – fell 9 percent to a record low 63.2. The biggest declines in births came from two groups deeply hurt by the recession – Hispanics and people in their 20s. Idaho experienced an even sharper decline in births but saw a turnaround sooner than the nation. After falling 15 percent from 83.4 in 2007 to 72.31 in 2011, Idaho's fertility rate rose 1 percent to 72.8 in 2012.

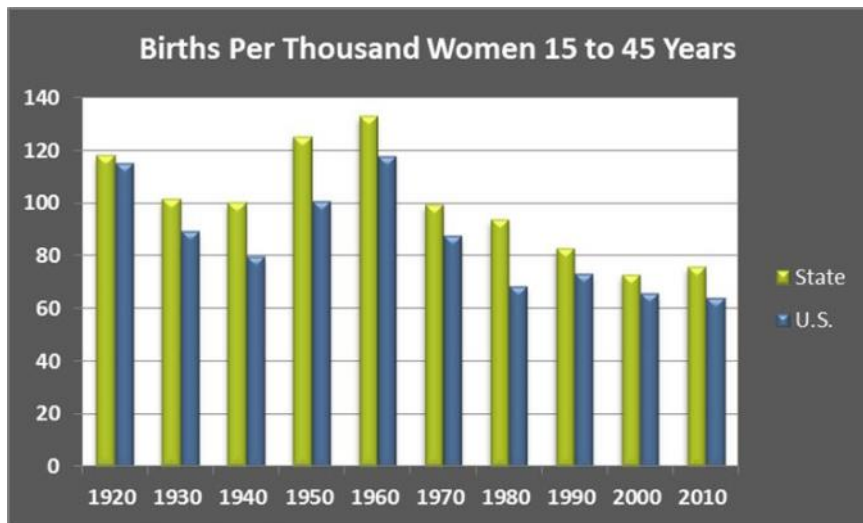
Birth rates tend to rise and fall with economic cycles. The recession that began in December 2007 intensified a long-term decline in U.S. fertility. The fertility rate fell by a fifth during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

In 2011, the Pew Research Center analyzed the drop in fertility by geography and found a strong link between falling fertility and economic malaise. The only state to show a slight increase in fertility between 2008 and 2009 was North Dakota, which had one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country.

As the economy continues to improve, some of the young people who postponed having children will be able to have babies, resulting in a small baby boom in the next few years.

Women are having fewer children

Fertility rates fell sharply after 1960, one of the last four years of the baby boom. The availability of more reliable contraception methods and changing desires about family size pushed the fertility rate down over the next four decades.



Source: National Center for Health Statistics

At 2012 fertility rates, the average American women could expect 1.9 babies over her lifetime. That is below the “replacement rate” of 2.1 – the level at which enough children are born to replace their parents in the population. From 1990 to 2008, the U.S. fertility rate hovered above 2.1. At the same time most other developed countries saw sharp drops in their fertility rates, portending long-term population declines without high levels of in-migration.

Over the last five decades, Idaho women have reduced the number of children. In 1960, over 19 percent of Idaho births were to women who already have five or more children. By 2011, that had fallen below 7 percent.

Today, almost one in five American women end their childbearing years without having borne a child compared with one in 10 in the 1970s. While childlessness has risen for all racial and ethnic groups and most education levels, it has fallen over the past decade for women with advanced degrees. The most educated women remain the most likely never to bear a child. About 24 percent of women ages 40 to 44 with a master’s, doctorate or professional degree have not borne children - a decline from 31 percent in 1994.

Some women who do not bear their own children raise children as adoptive mothers or stepmothers. According to the 2012 American Community Survey, Idaho households were homes to 363,436 biological children, 17,665 stepchildren and 10,160 adopted children.

Women wait longer to have children

Over recent decades, women have been waiting longer to have their first child. Before 1950, the average age of a mother having her first child was 21. In 1970, the average age of an American woman when she bore her first child was 22.3. By 2011, it was 25.8. This delay of motherhood is associated with the growing educational attainment of women and the rising age for marriage. The more education a woman has, the later she tends to marry and have children. Idaho women tend to have their first child earlier. The average age of a first-time mother in Idaho from 2007 through 2009 was 23.9, while the average age of a first-time mother in the U.S. during the same period was 25.1.

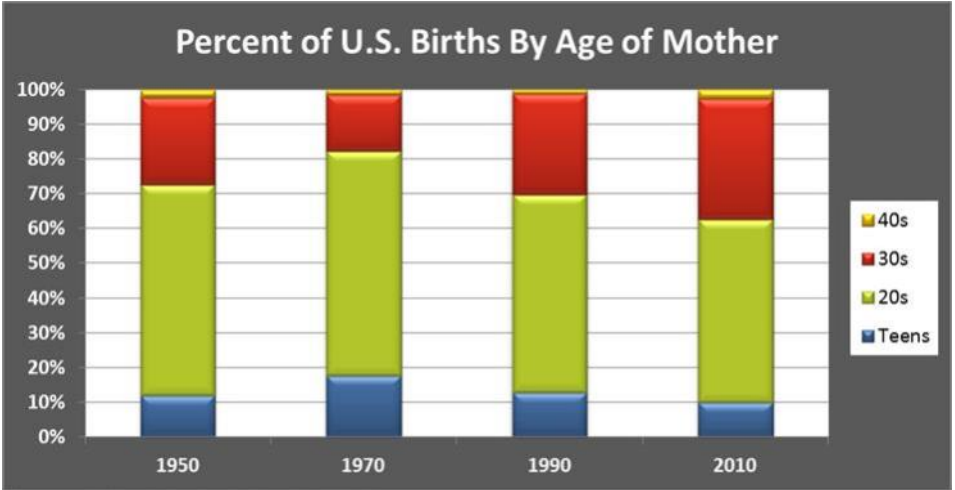
Teen childbearing has been generally on a long-term decline in the United States since the early 1970s. Teen birth rates fell sharply throughout the 1990s until 2006 and even more sharply after the recession began in late 2007. In the U.S. the birth rate per 1,000 teenagers ages 15 to 19 fell to a record low of 31.3 in 2011. Fewer babies were born to teenagers in 2011 than in any year since the mid-1940s. In spite of these declines, the U.S. teen birth rate remains one of the highest among industrialized countries.

Idaho Resident Live Births by Birth Order			
Birth Order	1960	1980	2011
1	23.7%	37.0%	34.8%
2	23.3%	28.8%	30.1%
3	19.6%	16.4%	18.2%
4	14.3%	8.6%	10.0%
5	8.7%	4.3%	4.1%
6	4.7%	2.4%	1.7%
7	2.6%	1.3%	0.6%
8	1.4%	0.7%	0.3%
9	0.8%	0.3%	0.1%
10 or more	1.1%	0.3%	0.1%

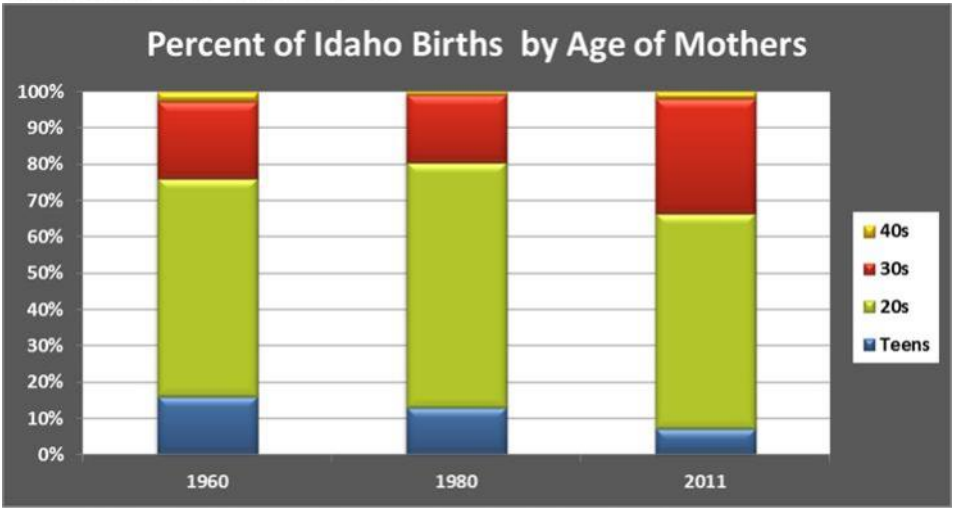
Source: Idaho Vital Statistics Report, 1960,1980, 2011, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Idaho’s teen birth rate also fell over time. In 1960, for every 1,000 girls ages 15 to 19 years old there were 98.8 births. The rate declined to 61.1 in 1980, 51 in 1990, and 28.1 by 2011.

Women in their thirties now account for 35 percent of births in the U.S., compared to 16 percent in 1970. More women in their forties are giving birth for the first time, but they still make up only 1 percent of first births and 3 percent of all births. Teenagers account for 10 percent of today’s births, compared to 18 percent in 1970. Idaho saw similar changes in the age of mothers. In the 1960s, births to teens were primarily to married women 18 and over. In recent decades, births to teens more often are out-of-wedlock and involve proportionately younger teens.



Source: National Center for Health Statistics

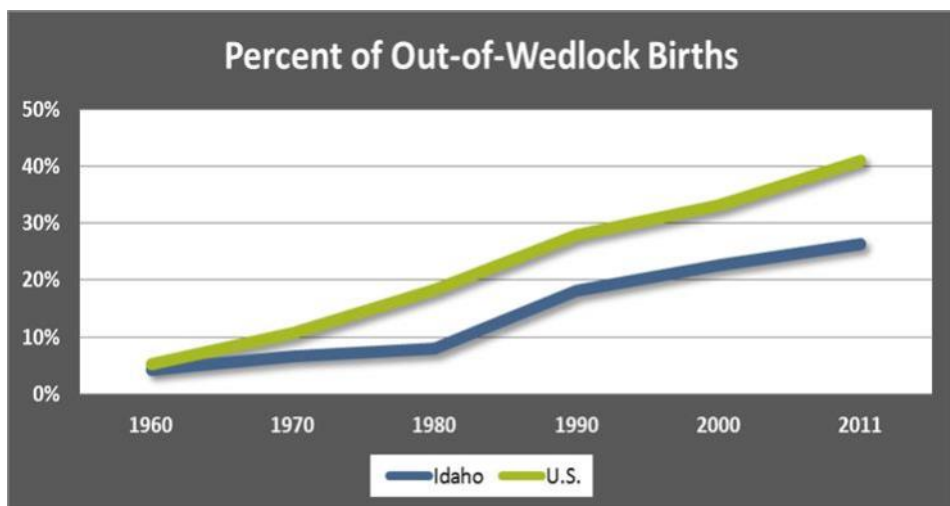


Source: Idaho Vital Statistics Report, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

More than two in five American babies are born to unmarried parents

Since the late 1960s, out-of-wedlock birth rates have soared in the United States. In 1965, 24 percent of black infants and 3 percent of white infants were born to single mothers. By 1990 the rates soared to 64 percent for black infants, 18 percent for whites. By 2011, they had risen to 72 percent and 36 percent.

Idaho has not seen quite as steep a rise in out-of-wedlock births, partly because its nonwhite population is so small. Even so, more than one in four babies are born to unmarried mothers.



Source: National Center for Health Statistics; Idaho Vital Statistics Report, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Before the 1970s, most unmarried mothers did not keep their babies. Today they put only a few up for adoption because the stigma of unwed motherhood has declined.

Over the last five decades, Idaho women have reduced the number of children. In 1960, over 19 percent of Idaho births were to women who already have five or more children. By 2011, that had fallen below 7 percent.

In the last two decades, white women with some postsecondary education but no college degree have been responsible for much of the growth in out-of-wedlock births. As recently as 1990, only 10 percent of the births to women in this cohort occurred outside marriage, according to Child Trends. Now it has tripled to 30 percent compared with just 8 percent for women of all races with college degrees.

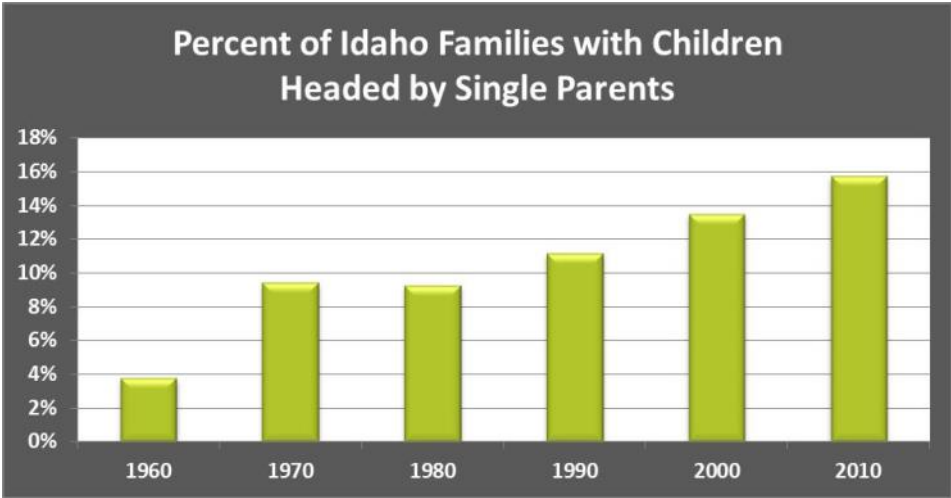
For high-school dropouts, 83 percent of first births are outside marriage, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

Increasingly, the parents of a child born out of wedlock are living together, which means that at least initially most babies are living with both parents. According to the 2012 American Community Survey, about 65 percent of the Idaho women who gave birth in the previous 12 months were living with an unmarried partner. Nationally, the number was closer to about 72 percent, but couples who are not married when they have children are far more likely to split up. About 39 percent of cohabiting parents split up by the time their first child turns five years old - three times higher than the rate for parents who were married when they had their first child.

The era of the shotgun wedding has passed. About 18.1 percent of all single women who became pregnant opted to move in with their boyfriends before the child was born, according to 2006-2010 data from the government's National Survey of Family Growth. That is compared with 5.3 percent who chose a post-conception marriage.

More children living with single parents

Given the rising out-of-wedlock birth rate and the increase in divorce rates since the 1960s, an increasing number of American children are growing up in single-parent homes. In 2010, about 32 percent of families with children under 18 were headed by single parents. In Idaho, nearly 16 percent were, compared to 4 percent in 1960.



Affording a child is harder

The cost of raising a child born in 2013 to age 18 averages \$241,080, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Its estimates include expenses for housing, food, transportation, clothing, health care, education and child care and miscellaneous expenses such as toys and computers. Since 2000, the cost of child care has increased twice as fast as the median income of families with children, according to the most recent report from Child Care Aware of America.

Many economists argue that the rise of single-parent families is a contributing factor to the growing inequality of income and wealth in the U.S. Children raised by a single parent are more likely to live in poverty, drop out of high school, become teen parents and raise their own children in poverty.

Waiting to marry

Americans are also marrying later. The average age for first marriages in the United States was 26.5 for women and 28.7 for men in 2011, up from 21 for women and 23 for men in 1990 and 20 and 23 in 1960.

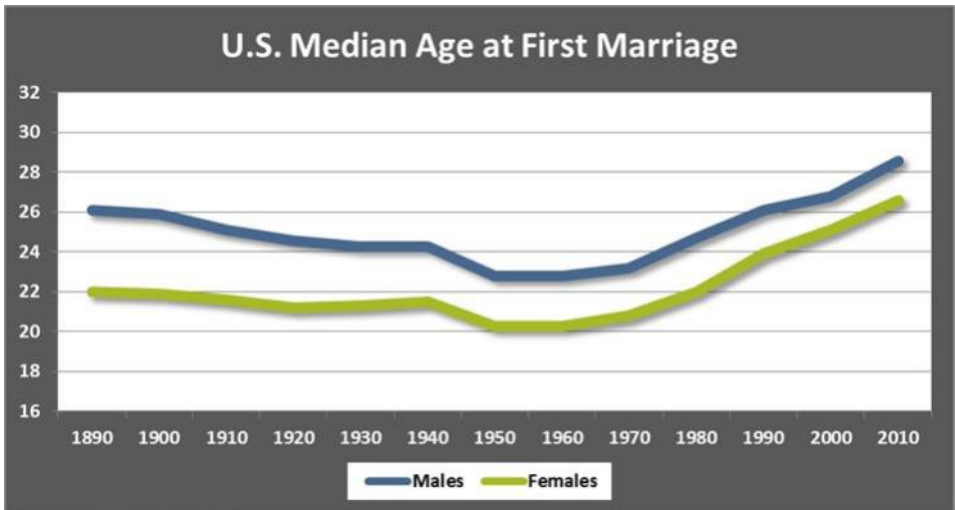
Women also are waiting longer in Idaho to get married. Idaho and Utah take turns having the lowest median ages for first marriages.

It used to be that only college-educated women waited to marry. Now it's all groups, as the chart below shows.

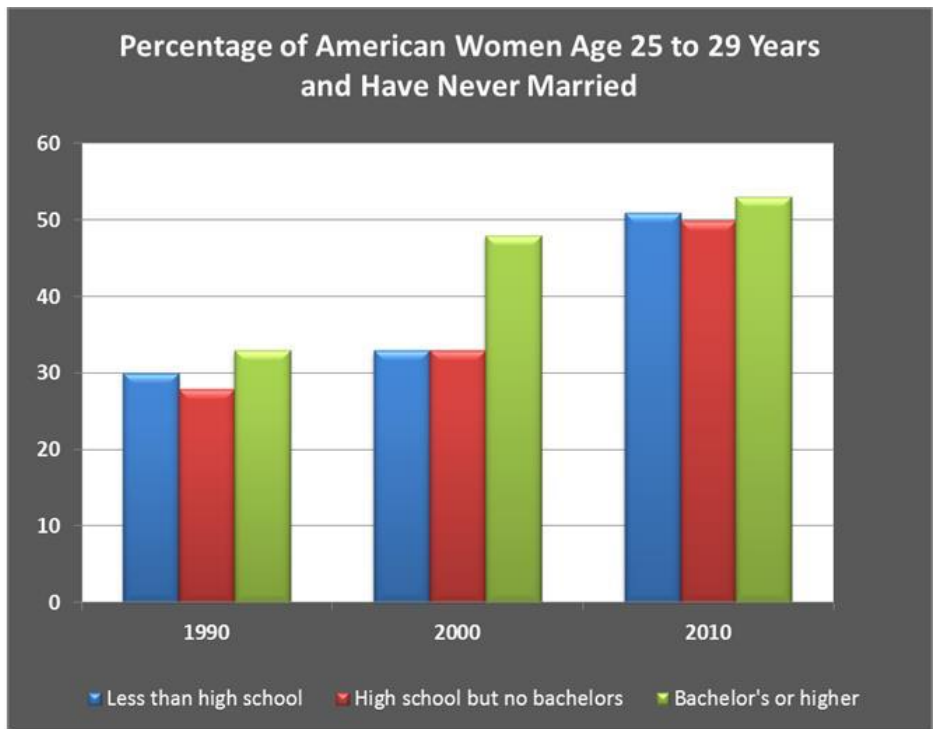
Knot Yet: The Benefits and Costs of Delayed Marriage in America, a 2013 report from the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia, found women who wait until age 30 to marry make more money. Women with a college degree

Idaho Median Age at First Marriage			
	1960	1976	2010
Bride	18.3	19.9	23.4
Groom	21.8	22	25.5

Source: National Center for Health Statistics



Source: National Center for Health Statistics



Source: Decennial Census Public Use Microdata Sample, U.S. Census Bureau

who wait to marry until at least age 30 earn \$18,152 more a year than college-educated women who married before age 20. Women with high school diplomas but no college degrees earn \$4,052 if they marry after age 30 than those who married before age 20.

It appears a greater percentage of college-educated young adults are choosing to marry than their less-educated peers. 2007 was the first year in American history when marriage rates were higher for college grads than non-grads over the age of 30. Nowadays, college graduates are more likely than those with less education to be married by age 27. Among young American adults who were born in the early 1980s, 34 percent were married at age 27, while 20 percent were unmarried and living with a partner, or cohabiting, and 47 percent were single. On average, young adults with more education were more likely to be married and less likely to be cohabiting.

Marital or Partner Status at Age 27 of Young American Adults Born in 1980 to 1984 by Gender and Educational Attainment			
Characteristic	Single	Married	Cohabiting
Men	52.4	29.2	18.4
Less than a high school diploma	47.5	28	24.5
High school graduates, no college	51	26.8	22.2
Some college or associate degree	52.3	29.7	17.9
Bachelor's degree and higher	56.2	31.8	12
Women	41.4	38	20.6
Less than a high school diploma	42.3	26.6	31.1
High school graduates, no college	39.1	36.8	24.1
Some college or associate degree	42.2	38.6	19.3
Bachelor's degree and higher	41.9	40.8	17.2

Source: Current Population Survey (March Supplement), U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Marriages Occurring in Idaho 2011 by Age of Bride and Groom											
Age of Groom	Total	Age of Bride									
		15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over
Total	13,696	1,318	3,885	2,606	1,727	1,088	931	1,356	582	148	55
15-19	523	414	98	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
20-24	3,356	755	2,223	307	55	9	6	1	0	0	0
25-29	2,896	114	1,156	1,202	325	61	29	8	1	0	0
30-34	1,898	23	282	703	638	180	50	19	3	0	0
35-39	1,254	5	78	234	385	366	142	41	3	0	0
40-44	1,060	6	33	99	186	271	293	162	10	0	0
45-54	1,515	1	12	44	123	175	331	720	103	4	2
55-64	812	0	3	10	9	22	66	355	329	18	0
65-74	289	0	0	0	2	4	14	43	117	95	14
75 & over	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	16	31	39

Source: Idaho Vital Statistics 2011, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

The average age for childbearing is now younger than the average age for marriage.

In the late 1980s, the U.S. median age for first birth was higher than the median age for first marriage of women. While both ages have increased since, their position has reversed. In 2011, the median age was 25.8 for first births and 26.5 for first marriages. By age 25, 44 percent of women have had a baby, while only 38 percent have married.

Idaho hasn't made this crossover. Its median age for first marriage remains lower than the median age for first birth.

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COMMUTING IMPACTS INCOME FLOW IN, OUT OF COUNTIES

Commuting has a major impact in today's world, particularly on income eventually dispersed throughout a region.

A residence adjustment used by the Bureau of Economic Analysis converts earnings by place of work to place of residence and helps estimate the impact of commuting on a county's income.

To get the residence adjustment, the money earned at jobs within the county by people living outside the county – outflow of earnings – is subtracted from the amount of money earned by residents who work outside of the county – inflow of earnings.

Inflow of Earnings

Counties with the highest earnings of residents who work outside the county include Canyon, Kootenai, Ada, Bonneville and Jefferson. These counties all share a labor market with other large populous counties, which have many employment opportunities, and in some instances workers in those jobs earn more as a group.

2012 Inflow Earnings as a Percent of Earnings By Place of Residence				
Rank	County	Inflow (in 000s)	Percent	Largest portion of residents commuting outside of county to (share of jobs)
1	Boise	\$147,943	95.0%	Ada (38.3%)
2	Custer	\$40,347	56.7%	Bannock (7.9%)
3	Gem	\$134,506	56.6%	Ada (13.7)
4	Franklin	\$125,625	49.3%	Cache, UT (9.2%)
5	Jefferson	\$265,783	46.5%	Bonneville (24.2%)
*Ranked from largest share of inflows as a percent of earnings by place of residence Sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics, 2011—all jobs;				

The inflow as a percent of earnings by place of residence shows how much rural counties benefit from their proximity to jobs in a larger metropolitan area or an area with a large employer that the region depends on.

Earnings Inflow			
County	Inflows (in 000s)	Work within county (share of jobs)	Largest portion of residents commuting outside of county to (share of jobs)
Canyon	\$926,866	60.3%	Ada (23.8%)
Kootenai	\$671,328	72.6%	Spokane, WA (7.7%)
Ada	\$649,408	71.8%	Canyon (14.9%)
Bonneville	\$631,779	61.6%	Bingham (8.4%)
Jefferson	\$265,783	46.1%	Bonneville (24.2%)
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics, 2011—all jobs; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis			

Outflow of Earnings

Counties with the highest earnings from in-county jobs held by people living outside the county include Ada, Butte, Canyon, Bonneville and Nez Perce. Typically, a county with the largest regional employment base incurs the largest share of commuters. Ada County has the largest outflow of earnings due to its large and diverse economic base.

The data really shines in Butte County, home to the Idaho National Laboratory, where outflow earnings are much higher than residence net earnings, illustrating the importance of high wage jobs in a rural area that people are willing to commute to from surrounding areas. According to Census data, only 16 percent of the county's population live and work in Butte County. Approximately 42 percent of Butte County's workforce resides in Bonneville Count with another 18 percent in Bingham County. Custer is another county with a high share of outflow to earnings at 96.4 percent—attributed to another large, single employer in a very rural area — the Thompson Creek mine.

2012 Outflow Earnings as a Percent of Earnings by Place of Residence			
Rank	County	Outflow (in 000s)	Percent
1	Ada	\$1,272,494	11.3%
2	Butte	\$620,343	1149.0%
3	Canyon	\$526,797	19.2%
4	Bonneville	\$351,190	13.5%
5	Nez Perce	\$252,376	29.4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Net Flow of Earnings

When considering the net flow of earnings – the residence adjustment – Kootenai and Canyon counties gain the most from commuting with positive flows reaching upwards of \$500 million in Kootenai County and \$400 million in Canyon County. Higher wages in the commuting destinations of Spokane and Ada counties as well as larger employers and new establishments have partially caused an increase in the number of people commuting to those areas, and that further increases the inflow of earnings. As a result, the residence adjustment rises in the resident county with a concomitant reduction in the counties where the work is done.

This is true in most high commuting areas with not only higher wages but more employment opportunities. The net flow of earnings in Ada County was negative in 2012 – a reduction of \$623 million – accounting for a 5.6 percent decline in earnings. At the same time the positive net flow of earnings in Canyon County accounted for 14.6 percent of residence earnings.

However, as a percent of earnings by place of residence, nearly 65 percent of the money earned by residents in Boise County came from outside the county – the highest share of any county. Gem and Franklin counties also benefitted from outside money – 47.6 and 43.7 percent respectively – a result of a large share of the population commuting elsewhere. Nearly 40 percent of residents in Boise County commute to Ada

County for work and 24 percent from Gem County commute to the greater Treasure Valley area for work — 14 percent to Ada and 11 percent to Canyon counties.

2012 Residence Adjustment as a Percent of Earnings By Place of Residence			
Rank	County	Net flow (in 000s)	Percent
1	Kootenai	\$512,075	17.8%
2	Canyon	\$400,069	14.6%
3	Bonneville	\$280,589	10.8%
4	Jefferson	\$205,253	35.9%
5	Latah	\$142,479	17.5%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Thirteen counties had negative net flows, indicating more money flows out to other places than what is brought back to the county by residents working elsewhere.

County	Net Flow of Earnings	Net flow as a percent of earnings
Ada	-\$623,086	-5.6%
Butte	-\$610,935	-1132.0%
Nez Perce	-\$133,930	-15.6%
Caribou	-\$56,978	-31.7%
Madison	-\$56,816	-11.0%
Custer	-\$28,285	-39.7%
Cassia	-\$24,636	-4.3%
Power	-\$14,573	-6.9%
Blaine	-\$13,246	-2.1%
Boundary	-\$8,996	-6.1%
Clearwater	-\$3,192	-2.5%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Areas that share a labor market benefit from outside money, but the extent depends on several factors such as wages, large employers and new establishments, factors that increase the number of people commuting over the border to work for these opportunities and, therefore, the inflow of earnings. That ultimately impacts the net flow or residence adjustment.

Counties in other states that border Idaho counties generally share the largest portion of jobs that residents retain and therefore play a significant role in net flow of earnings for Idaho counties.

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See additional tables on page 18.

Idaho Counties With High Commuting Patterns Along State Borders

Net Flow of Earnings

Idaho county	Net flows (in thousands)	(% of earnings by place of residence)	Bordering county	Net flows (in thousands)	(% of earnings by place of residence)	% of jobs of Idaho residents commuting across the border
Franklin	111,407	43.7%	Cache, UT	24,618	1.1%	9.7%
Kootenai	512,075	17.8%	Spokane, WA	-710,082	-6.9%	7.7%
Latah	142,479	17.5%	Whitman, WA	-133,557	-14.3%	5.8%
Oneida	16,791	21.1%	Box Elder, UT	238,031	22.2%	2.2%
			Cache, UT	24,618	1.1%	1.9%
Payette	115,466	28.7%	Malheur, OR	-140,010	-35.0%	9.2%
Teton	6,081	27.1%	Teton, WY	-110,946	-11.5%	3.1%
Washington	38,714	25.4%	Baker, OR	7,709	3.3%	5.2%

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics, 2011—all jobs

Net Earnings and Flows by County

County	(in thousands)				(as a percent of earnings by place of residence)		
	Net earnings by place of residence	Inflows	Outflows	Residence adjustment	Inflows	Outflows	Residence adjustment
Ada	11,226,700	649,408	1,272,494	-623,086	5.8%	11.3%	-5.6%
Adams	51,787	13,279	7,199	6,080	25.6%	13.9%	11.7%
Bannock	1,498,442	249,692	182,300	67,392	16.7%	12.2%	4.5%
Bear Lake	115,601	41,042	4,227	36,815	35.5%	3.7%	31.8%
Benewah	183,223	26,082	25,527	555	14.2%	13.9%	0.3%
Bingham	895,288	223,292	140,286	83,006	24.9%	15.7%	9.3%
Blaine	635,848	29,775	43,021	-13,246	4.7%	6.8%	-2.1%
Boise	155,776	147,943	46,791	101,152	95.0%	30.0%	64.9%
Bonner	640,385	103,469	43,634	59,835	16.2%	6.8%	9.3%
Bonneville	2,595,810	631,779	351,190	280,589	24.3%	13.5%	10.8%
Boundary	148,094	12,179	21,175	-8,996	8.2%	14.3%	-6.1%
Butte	53,970	9,408	620,343	-610,935	17.4%	1149.4%	-1132.0%
Camas	30,037	7,507	756	6,751	25.0%	2.5%	22.5%
Canyon	2,739,853	926,866	526,797	400,069	33.8%	19.2%	14.6%
Caribou	179,557	9,283	66,261	-56,978	5.2%	36.9%	-31.7%
Cassia	567,162	94,374	119,010	-24,636	16.6%	21.0%	-4.3%
Clark	33,305	2,795	3,613	-818	8.4%	10.8%	-2.5%
Clearwater	130,049	18,868	22,060	-3,192	14.5%	17.0%	-2.5%
Custer	71,220	40,347	68,632	-28,285	56.7%	96.4%	-39.7%
Elmore	574,330	90,458	56,458	34,000	15.8%	9.8%	5.9%
Franklin	255,036	125,625	14,218	111,407	49.3%	5.6%	43.7%
Fremont	216,258	90,845	20,277	70,568	42.0%	9.4%	32.6%
Gem	237,555	134,506	21,406	113,100	56.6%	9.0%	47.6%
Gooding	463,005	82,311	54,349	27,962	17.8%	11.7%	6.0%
Idaho	244,570	34,081	16,982	17,099	13.9%	6.9%	7.0%
Jefferson	571,087	265,783	60,530	205,253	46.5%	10.6%	35.9%
Jerome	515,835	136,680	126,448	10,232	26.5%	24.5%	2.0%
Kootenai	2,871,201	671,328	159,253	512,075	23.4%	5.5%	17.8%
Latah	814,127	207,059	64,580	142,479	25.4%	7.9%	17.5%
Lemhi	110,987	2,341	1,311	1,030	2.1%	1.2%	0.9%
Lewis	86,283	21,069	21,580	-511	24.4%	25.0%	-0.6%
Lincoln	112,266	35,478	34,600	878	31.6%	30.8%	0.8%
Madison	516,554	64,191	121,007	-56,816	12.4%	23.4%	-11.0%
Minidoka	420,572	115,540	84,567	30,973	27.5%	20.1%	7.4%
Nez Perce	858,202	118,446	252,376	-133,930	13.8%	29.4%	-15.6%
Oneida	79,642	19,726	2,935	16,791	24.8%	3.7%	21.1%
Owyhee	236,699	99,382	38,091	61,291	42.0%	16.1%	25.9%
Payette	402,230	179,036	63,570	115,466	44.5%	15.8%	28.7%
Power	212,661	49,318	63,891	-14,573	23.2%	30.0%	-6.9%
Shoshone	237,622	41,772	29,155	12,617	17.6%	12.3%	5.3%
Teton	183,621	55,867	6,030	49,837	30.4%	3.3%	27.1%
Twin Falls	1,590,763	170,293	169,008	1,285	10.7%	10.6%	0.1%
Valley	193,461	23,424	17,343	6,081	12.1%	9.0%	3.1%
Washington	152,331	49,934	11,220	38,714	32.8%	7.4%	25.4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

NORTHERN IDAHO

Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai & Shoshone counties

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

- A consortium of Spokane's health care providers is planning a \$15 million, 40,000-square-foot primary-care clinic in the city's University District to serve as a training ground for new physicians and other emerging medical professionals. Residents will begin training this year. The consortium includes Washington State University, Providence Health Care and the Empire Health Foundation. The consortium has secured \$900,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration for six new medical residencies in Spokane. Annual funding is expected to ramp up over the next three years to \$2.7 million for 18 new residencies.
- Red Lion Hotels Corp. continues to lose money, reporting a first-quarter net loss of \$3.5 million compared with a loss of \$3.1 million a year earlier.
- At least three sizable apartment complexes valued at \$42 million are planned for the Spokane and Coeur d'Alene areas, which are expected to see more apartment projects in the coming year. Analysts see demand driven by the number of baby boomers moving into more multifamily situations and out of single-family homes.
Multifamily projects include:
 - Ruby Apartments is a \$10 million, 61-unit student apartment building on the west edge of the Gonzaga University campus.
 - On the South Hill of Spokane, two adjacent apartment projects are valued at \$32 million. Commonwealth Agency, a Hayden-based non-profit, wants to issue \$12.5 million in tax-exempt revenue bonds to finance the 120-unit Summit Ridge Apartments. The 120-unit Pine Rock complex recently was awarded \$10.8 million in low-income housing tax credits.
 - Nonprofit Spokane Housing Ventures recently completed the \$20 million Clare View project that included a 61-unit senior housing complex and renovation of the nearby 124-unit Clare House Apartments in Spokane.
 - Whitewater Creek is developing two apartment complexes in the Riverstone mixed-use community in Coeur d'Alene. The \$9.8 million, 114-unit Riverstone Place complex involves five three-story buildings. The other is the \$3.2 million, 38-unit Riverstone West III complex.
 - One of the largest ongoing apartment projects is Copper Landing in Airway Heights near the Kalispel Tribe's Northern Quest Resort & Casino. The \$23.2 million, 216-unit complex includes nine three-story buildings, most in various stages of construction.
 - Mirabolante Apartments is a \$14.8 million, 135-unit project in Spokane Valley.

- Carrington Place, an \$11.2 million, 132-unit complex with 22 six-unit buildings, is in various stages of construction in the Landings residential development in northwest Coeur d'Alene.
- Highline West Apartments, a \$6 million, 56-unit complex, is planned in the Kendall Yards mixed-use development northwest of downtown Spokane.
- Wandermere Glen, a \$4.5 million, 48-unit project, is expected to be completed in July.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BENEWAH COUNTY

- The first Industrial Career Fair at St. Maries High School drew 405 students. The “Diggers and Dogs” event aimed to educate young adults about job opportunities in the community. It was hosted by the local Idaho Department of Labor office in partnership with the St. Maries Joint School District and local businesses. North Idaho College promoted its professional technical education programs including HVAC, automotive, carpentry, collision repair, machinist, millwright, welding, aerospace, hospitality, culinary and medical assistant. Lewis-Clark State College pushed its health care programs. Students gained hands-on exposure to many activities from logging equipment to utility electrical simulation. Participating groups included Danielson Logging, Benewah Community Hospital, Avista, the Police Officer Standards and Training Academy, the Toni and Guy Hair School, the Idaho Department of Lands, the Idaho Transportation Department, the city of St. Maries, Jack Buell Trucking, Valley Vista, St. Maries Fire District, Western States, Associated General Contractors, North Idaho Metal Works, Potlatch Corp. and all branches of the military.

BONNER COUNTY

- Northern Lights Inc. electrical co-op held its 79th annual membership meeting at the Sandpoint Events Center on May 3.

BOUNDARY COUNTY

- Gov. Butch Otter visited Bonners Ferry for Capital for a Day on April 25, giving citizens a chance to talk with him and his staff about any state government concerns or programs. The questions ranged from education to septic waste.
- A six-session Forestry Shortcourse is being offering this summer to help forest landowners better understanding forests so they can better manage them to maintain lower forestry property tax rates and cost-share assistance for activities like thinning. The course will help enrich forest landowners' understanding of forest ecology, silviculture, forest health and wildlife habitat while natural resource professionals will coach the group on developing forest management plans. The course is set for 9 a.m. to noon every Wednesday starting June 11 at the University of Idaho Extension office in Boundary County. There is space for 25. A \$38 registration fee includes forest stewardship resource materials. To participate, preregister by June 4 at the Boundary County extension office. Participants are eligible for seven Idaho Pesticide Recertification credits. For

\$242, teachers can also sign up for two University of Idaho credits. The Forestry Shortcourse is an Idaho Forest Stewardship program cosponsored by the University of Idaho Extension, the Idaho Department of Lands and other agencies and organizations.

KOOTENAI COUNTY

- The Idaho Department of Labor's Kootenai office held its annual Spring Job Fair at Real Life Ministries in Post Falls. Fifty employers including Silverwood Theme Park and the Coeur d'Alene Resort were trying to fill more than 2,000 jobs. An estimated 1,000 job seekers turned out, and many were interviewed on the spot.
- The American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma has verified Kootenai Health as a Level III Trauma Center. Trauma verification is a voluntary process that helps providers evaluate and improve trauma care. Kootenai had to prove it has the resources to provide the entire spectrum of care to meet all of an injured patient's needs. Reviewers evaluated every phase of patient care at Kootenai including how patients are handled before they reach the hospital and after they move on to rehabilitation.
- The AmeriTel Inn-Coeur d'Alene is changing franchises to La Quinta Inns and Suites. Among the dozen properties AmeriTel owns is the Hampton Inn and Suites Coeur d'Alene. A name change has increased business at other properties in the company's portfolio. The company will reinvest in the property. It has 118 rooms and suites and 1,775 square feet of conference space. The hotel typically employs 20 to 25, but that staff could increase by 10 or more if business increases as planned.
- Silverwood Theme Park is expecting its ninth consecutive annual increase in attendance this year. Season-pass sales and group business are up over previous years – a good indicator for the season. The 2013 attendance totaled 679,000, an increase of 3.5 percent over 2013.

SHOSHONE COUNTY

- An asphalt plant is being proposed in Kingston on 19 acres owned by Woods Crushing and Hauling in a natural resource zone. This is part of a \$55 million joint project between the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Environmental Quality that focusses on re-paving roads throughout communities in Idaho including Shoshone County. The Shoshone County Planning and Zoning Commission will make the final decision in mid-May.
- The 10th anniversary of the Kellogg Leadman Triathlon on April 26 drew close to 200 participants from around the Northwest. The Leadman includes legs of skiing/snowboarding, mountain biking and running.

OPENINGS

- Gauteraux & Co. in Wallace
- Joel Pearl Group, a boutique real estate brokerage, in Hayden
- Gaia's Rock'n Crystals in Coeur d'Alene
- Paragon Brewing in Coeur d'Alene
- Bulwark Barber in Coeur d'Alene

- The Fork of Lakeside restaurant in Coeur d'Alene
- Professional Pet Care with a Pawsitive Touch in Post Falls
- Taylor's Auto Mart in Coeur d'Alene
- The Coeur d'Alenes restaurant in Coeur d'Alene
- Rustic Pine Trading Post in Coeur d'Alene
- Well Read Moose bookstore at Riverstone in Coeur d'Alene
- Slick Rock Tanning & Spa in Coeur d'Alene
- Metanoia Hot Yoga in Coeur d'Alene
- Animal Medical Center in Coeur d'Alene
- Pedi & Polish in Coeur d'Alene
- Stylebar in Coeur d'Alene
- HomeStyles Lighting in Coeur d'Alene
- Cycle Metrix in Coeur d'Alene
- Scotty's Auto Body & RV in Coeur d'Alene
- Uva Trattoria restaurant in Coeur d'Alene
- Evergreen Softub in Coeur d'Alene
- The Hair Extension Shop in Coeur d'Alene

COMING SOON

- Lake City Cakes in Hayden
- Downburst Brewing in Coeur d'Alene
- CdA Souvenir & Sundry in Coeur d'Alene
- Mattress Firm in Coeur d'Alene

MERGERS

- The four Sterling Savings Banks in northern Idaho are now among the 400 branches of Umpqua Bank

CLOSURES

- Coldwater Creek in Sandpoint and Coeur d'Alene, laying off over 440 employees
- The Papillion Paper Emporium in Coeur d'Alene
- Devin Galleries in Coeur d'Alene

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NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce counties

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Counts of fish in the Columbia River suggest a strong chinook salmon season in Idaho this year. Fishery experts forecast the sixth highest return in the last 20 years. Most of the Idaho-bound salmon are headed to the Clearwater River basin, the Hells Canyon reach of the Snake River and the Rapid River Hatchery in the Salmon River basin near Riggins. By the end of April, enough spring chinook had passed over Bonneville Dam to support good fisheries in the Clearwater and Lower Salmon rivers. About 10,000 hatchery chinook salmon destined for the Clearwater basin had already crossed Bonneville Dam by April 30. Last year, only 6,700 Clearwater River hatchery chinook crossed during the entire run. So this year certain-

ly will provide more opportunities to catch fish. The size of the fish salmon and steelhead runs partly determine the number of visitors to the region. An Idaho Fish and Game study in 2001 showed that anglers spent \$46.2 million annually in Idaho for chinook fishing and another \$35.4 million for steelhead fishing.

- The 145th Brigade Support Battalion of the National Guard based at the Lewiston armory showed local employers how its employees work on the weekend when they serve in the guard. The annual Operation Boss Lift, held May 3, allows employers to see what their workers do and learn about military specialties including communications, weapons and the medical corps. The event is sponsored by the volunteers with Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, which tries to increase awareness of the benefits of hiring soldiers.



Operation Boss, Lewiston, May 3, 2014. Photo courtesy of Sheila Kopczynski.

- About 100 aviation industry representatives attended the first one-day conference for Idaho's growing aerospace manufacturing sector in Coeur d'Alene, organized by the Lewiston-based American Manufacturing Network. Idaho Lt. Gov. Brad Little opened the Idaho - Advancing Aviation Manufacturing Expo and Conference. Workshops included prospects for 3-D printers changing how they make products, how drones could create opportunities and how they could become more involved in federal contracting. Some experts predict the market for drones will be about \$40 billion worldwide in five years.
- Several school districts and the road departments in Clearwater, Idaho and Latah counties will continue receiving payments from the U.S. Forest Service that have traditionally made up significant parts of their budget. The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, passed in 2000, was set to end last year. Payments have declined in recent years as the program was set to phase out. The reauthorized payments are running about 8 percent lower than last year. In October, Congress extended the payments for a year so Idaho will receive about \$28 million for school districts, county road departments and resource advisory committees, which pay for forest-related infrastructure and services. Mountain View School District covering Grangeville, Elk City and Kooskia

receives the largest allocation for Idaho's school districts. In 2010, it received \$1.6 million, which was 15 percent of its budget. Other districts that heavily rely on the federal payments include Cottonwood, where they provided about 10 percent of the budget; Orofino, 12 percent; and Kamiah, 8 percent. In 2010, the federal payments made up 73 percent of Idaho County's budget for roads. The total allocation in Idaho County this year will be \$7 million while Clearwater County will receive \$1.1 million and Latah County about \$195,000.

- The North Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee approved \$195,000 to fix the 80-year-old bridge that was declared structurally deficient and in danger of imminent failure three years ago. Officials on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest closed the bridge to vehicle and pedestrian traffic at that time, cutting off access to the popular campground and a trailhead at the mouth of Weitas Creek.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

CLEARWATER COUNTY

- The Sportsman Channel's *Extreme Outer Limits* is airing a two-part series on Nightforce Optics, a maker of rifle scopes in Orofino. The first part premiered May 3 and the second on May 10. The series covers Bob Beck's travel to Orofino to get a behind-the-scenes tour of the Nightforce plant to see what goes into making precision optics. The company, which employs about 100 people, is Clearwater County's largest private-sector employer.
- The U.S. Department of Interior presented its Environmental Achievement Award to Dworshak National Fish Hatchery in April, recognizing the innovative way it slashed its energy use by 30 million kilowatt hours per year. Built 40 years ago to mitigate steelhead lost on the North Fork of the Clearwater River to construction of Dworshak Dam, it later began producing spring chinook to mitigate fish killed at dams on the Lower Snake River. Each year, the hatchery releases 2.1 million steelhead smolts, 1.5 million spring chinook smolts and 300,000 coho smolts. The aging facility had a limited water supply that had to be heated or cooled at different times of the year. Changes over the last two years make more efficient use of the water and eliminate much of the heating and cooling. The energy savings achieved at the hatchery are enough to power about 3,000 homes. Run by a partnership of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Nez Perce Tribe, the hatchery employs about 50.

IDAHO AND LEWIS COUNTIES

Sts. Peter and Paul School in Grangeville received a \$141,400 grant to upgrade its technology from the E. L. Wiegand Foundation. The Catholic school will replace its 50 computers and nine printers, add 24 handheld devices, increase its bandwidth and buy new software to help with standardized testing.

Cottonwood resident Jack Wimer recently purchased the former Prairie Elementary School in Cottonwood. He plans to turn the building on Lewiston Street into retired housing.

Fifth-graders from throughout Idaho and Lewis counties met at Greencreek Community Hall for the annual Farm and Forest Fair April 16. Groups discussing the role of forest products and agriculture in the area included Idaho Forest Group, Clearwater Forest, the Idaho Department of Lands, Nez Perce Tribe Biological Control, the Idaho-Lewis County Cattle Association, Idaho Farm Bureau-Dairy, Idaho Farm Bureau-Wheat, I-Max Theater and 4-H. The fair is sponsored by the North Central Idaho University of Idaho Extension.

LATAH COUNTY

- The Idaho State Board of Education at its April meeting approved hikes in tuition for the University of Idaho. Full-time tuition and fees for Idaho residents will increase 4 percent this fall, up \$260 to \$6,784 per year. The increase is much lower than the average 6.4 percent growth per year from 2005 to 2013. Nationwide, tuition and fees at public four-year colleges was up a yearly average 6.2 percent from 2005 to 2013. Tuition and fees for a full-time resident undergraduate in Moscow rose from \$3,968 in the school year that began in the fall of 2005 to \$6,524 in the current school year.
- The Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport's activity is exceeding its capacity. While demand is increasing, the airport has not kept up with the times. It was not designed for the larger aircraft that want to use it. The taxiway and runway are too close together. The Federal Aviation Administration has given special permission to allow those larger aircraft on the condition that when large planes land all other airplanes must wait until after it has taxied and parked. The busier the airport gets, the more often things have to grind to a halt. To solve the problem, the airport plans a \$66 million project to realign and extend the runway and move the terminal. The project currently is in the environmental assessment phase, which could be completed by October. Land acquisition and design are slated for 2015 with construction to be completed in 2018.
- The city of Moscow is gearing up for a busy construction season that includes improvement of streets, sidewalks and water lines. The largest project is the \$3.49 million Moscow Community Playfields on Joseph Street that will be jointly paid for by the city and school district. It will create a new athletic area with three softball / youth baseball fields, one varsity baseball field, two regulation soccer fields, bleachers, restrooms, press box and parking for 240 vehicles. Construction began in May and should end in October. Starting June 9, the city will lay 550 feet of water main and 25 feet of sewer main to connect Park View Estates to existing infrastructure at Public Avenue. Grinding and repaving on three stretches of city streets will take place from July 7 to Aug. 15 for an estimated cost of \$155,000. Improving curb ramps on sidewalks will run from early June to late August. McCall's Classic Construction of Lewiston will handle a \$92,000 project to improve access for the disabled while Curtis Concrete Construction Inc. of Pullman will take charge of a \$41,000 project. The city also plans to spend \$59,500 for sidewalk repair and construction through Knox Concrete of Lewiston.
- Three groups want to rebrand Moscow by crafting a unified message that captures the community's essence and provides consistent messaging to

target audiences. The University of Idaho, the city of Moscow and the local chamber of commerce are collaborating to develop a logo and motto that will attract students, faculty, potential residents, tourists and new businesses. Using a \$30,000 Idaho Department of Commerce Tourism Grant and \$10,000 each from the university and the city, they plan to hire a consultant in June to identify how the city should concentrate its tourism and economic development efforts and recommend groups to target for boosting university enrollment.

- Since a local historical group purchased the 108-year-old railroad depot in Potlatch in 2001, it has slowly made upgrades. In 2007, the depot underwent its first major renovation — a new foundation, siding and roof for the main building. Three years later, the Washington, Idaho and Montana Railway History Preservation Group renovated the first floor, and a couple of businesses moved in. Currently, the group is raising the \$100,000 required to renovate the second floor later this year to provide office or studio space for six tenants. Potlatch Lumber Co. started building the Washington, Idaho and Montana Railway in 1905. The 49-mile track connected to the Milwaukee Road railway at Bovill and the Northern Pacific and Great Northern railway at Palouse.
- Washington State University broke ground on a \$52.8 million clean technology laboratory on its Pullman campus in April. The College of Engineering and Architecture plans to name the 96,000-square-foot building the PACCAR Environmental Technology Building after a company that made a sizable donation to the school. PACCAR, based in Bellevue, Wash., is a Fortune 200 company that manufactures trucks under the Kenworth and Peterbilt names and provides financial, information technology and customer services. The university said the building will serve as “a hub for faculty from engineering, the sciences and allied fields to engage in cutting-edge interdisciplinary environmental technology research and education.” It also says the building will be the cornerstone of a new engineering district on its campus. Construction is scheduled for completion in October 2015.
- Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, the Pullman-based creator of energy protection equipment and systems, is developing a power-grid upgrade for Stanford University’s 8,100-acre campus near Palo Alto, Calif. The company is designing a centralized system for monitoring and controlling the campus power grid remotely from a central location rather than from a number of locations. It also will install equipment to protect electrical systems from undesired explosive electrical discharges and allow the school to operate its own microgrid separate from connected utilities. When the project is completed in June, it will provide onsite training and support for system operators. The Stanford project is the largest of the 100 university power-management projects Schweitzer has undertaken around the world. The company, which soon will celebrate its 30th anniversary, employs 883 Pullman residents, 481 Moscow, 195 Lewiston, 109 Clarkston and about 500 other people at its headquarters in Pullman and its plant in Lewiston.

- The Port of Whitman County began installing its own telecommunications network in 2001 after convincing the Washington Legislature to allow ports and public utility districts to install telecommunications infrastructure and sell it wholesale to Internet service providers and other telecommunications ventures. The port is an economic development authority that operates the seaport of Wilma near Clarkston, two smaller ports and a marina with a park on the Snake River farther east, a small airport and industrial park near Colfax and two business parks in Pullman. Over the past 10 years, it created a fiber-optic line that connects Moscow, Pullman, Colfax and St. John, 25 miles northwest of Colfax. Big companies like AT&T and CenturyLink appreciate leasing from the port because they can now share the same network instead of building their own, reducing their costs. Smaller players like First Step Internet of Moscow are not squeezed out of the market. The port does not compete with the private sector because it does not sell to end users. It boosts the economic vitality of the county by making it possible for fast Internet and for 4G speeds to be offered on cellphones. The port recently spent \$14 million to add another fiber-optic line from Clarkston to Spokane. In addition to improving service, the new line provides redundancy so that when one line is out, the other can provide service.

NEZ PERCE AND ASOTIN COUNTIES

- The main runway at the airport in Lewiston will get an upgrade this summer. Contractors will grind off the top layer of old asphalt, apply a new grooved surface and stabilize its shoulders. It has been 10 years since the last renovation on the 6,512-foot-by-150-foot runway built in the late 1960s. From July 14 - 28, the runway will be closed so contractors can work on it, and air traffic will be rerouted to the airport's secondary runway. The airport and its business community will remain open during construction although airline service will be limited. Delta has announced it will cease all operations for two weeks. Alaska Airlines is expected to maintain most of its schedule.
- The Port of Wilma, directly across the Snake River from Clarkston, is a beehive of activity this spring with its largest tenant, the Bennett Lumber Mill, reopening after being shut down for five years, and the last phase of a \$10 million construction project for another tenant, McGregor Co. McGregor sells seed, pesticides, fertilizer and farm equipment to farmers throughout southeastern Washington and north central Idaho. Construction began last year and included the addition of a 2,100-foot rail spur and a complex for processing and storing fertilizers. A 48,000-square-foot dry storage warehouse and a four-bay blending and loading facility should be ready by early summer. McGregor will hire four new workers. Across the region, it employs about 340. The upgrades will improve McGregor's efficiency and make it more likely that farmers will find their preferred fertilizers when they need them. The rail spur connects to a short line rail with connections to the two largest railroads in the country, Union Pacific and Burlington Northern. The rail access is critical since about 90 percent of the product will arrive by rail, not barge.
- The Port of Clarkston recently completed installing fiber-optic cable serving the area along Port Drive and Port Way and connecting with the

Port of Whitman's Spokane-to-Clarkston cable. The port is negotiating with private businesses to provide services on the cable. Now, it is adding fiber-optic cable to the Turning Pointe Industrial Park that it is developing along Evans Road.

- Tuition and fees at Lewis-Clark State College will increase 2 percent across the board, following approval from Idaho State Board of Education. The increase will be \$116 a year for a full-time Idaho resident to total \$5,900. From the school year beginning in fall 2007 to the current school year, Lewis-Clark State College's tuition and fees have risen 41 percent, a little less than Boise State University's 43 percent, Idaho State University's 44 percent and the University of Idaho's 48 percent. About 4,400 students attend the Lewiston school, which employs more than 500 with a payroll of \$20 million excluding work-study students.
- A new definition of "rural area" in the 2014 farm bill has made Lewiston residents with low or moderate incomes eligible for low-interest and subsidized housing loans through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Under the definition in the 1949 Housing Act, only people in cities with populations under 25,000 were eligible. The farm bill boosted that number to 35,000. The U.S. Census Bureau estimated Lewiston's population at 32,051 in 2012, so the city became an eligible rural lending area for USDA's Rural Development housing programs on May 6.

OPENINGS

- Ernie's Steakhouse restaurant and bar in the former Timber Creek Grill Buffet building in Lewiston
- JJ Building Supplies, a retail store employing nine in the Lewiston Orchards

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SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO

Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

ADA COUNTY

- Declara, a Palo Alto, Calif. software company, plans to double its software development staff in Boise from 10 to 20. The company just finished raising \$16 million in a Series A investment.
- Inland Crane acquired Crane West in April. The new company will have around 40 employees.
- Grace Assisted Living is expanding into Garden City. The 78,000-square-foot complex will have room for 90 residents. The company has 16 facilities in the Northwest.
- United Airlines will start nonstop service between Houston and Boise later this year. SkyWest Airlines will operate the flight.
- Bishop Kelly High School is building new classrooms and tennis courts and expanding the library for the fall term. The Catholic high school has seen increasing enrollments over the past few years.

- U.S. Geothermal plans to buy Ram Power Corp.'s California geothermal operation for \$6.4 million. The company has also acquired leases on 368 acres near Vale, Ore.
- Banner Bank is trying to acquire Boise-based Idaho Banking Co. Idaho Bancorp, the parent company of Idaho Banking Co. filed for relief from creditors under Chapter 11 of the bankruptcy laws as part of the sales agreement. Banner's \$2.6 million offer is not firm, and other banks will have a chance to bid on the company as part of the bankruptcy process.
- Boise-based WinCo Foods opened a new distribution center in Phoenix in May. The 900,000-square-foot facility will ship to the company's 19 stores in Arizona, southern Nevada and California.
- Crane Creek Country Club is planning a \$3.5 million renovation project. The members-only facility plans to renovate the front nine holes to meet U.S. Golf Association specification and build more tennis courts among other improvements.
- The Ada County courthouse is starting a renovation project. The \$463,000 project will add between 5,000 and 6,000 square-feet of space to accommodate additional judges and support staff. The project should be complete this fall.
- The Outdoor Exchange in Boise has doubled its space. The outdoor gear consignment store began renovation last December.
- Juniper, a restaurant serving American cuisine, plans a June opening in the former Cazba space in downtown Boise.

CANYON COUNTY

- The Caldwell City Council has approved a preliminary plat for the La Bella Vida subdivision. The 260-acre up-scale subdivision on the Boise River near Midland Boulevard is slated to break ground in September.
- The College of Western Idaho has suspended new enrollments in its culinary arts program until a new building can be found. The program is the last to still be held on Boise State University's campus. The last group of students is scheduled to graduate in December 2015.
- PreFunk Beer Bar plans a second location in Nampa this summer.

GEM COUNTY

- Gem Forest Products, a subsidiary of biofuel company Greenfuels Energy of Birmingham, Ala., has purchased the former Emerald Forest Products mill in Emmett. The company plans to reopen the mill this summer with around 50 workers.

ELMORE COUNTY

- Mountain Home Air Force Base is being considered to host an A-29 training mission for the Afghan air force. Two other bases, Shaw in South Carolina and Moody in Georgia, are also being considered for the mission.

VALLEY COUNTY

- Family Dollar plans to build a store in New Meadows this year.

OPENINGS

- On the Fly Rotisserie Deli in Boise
- Idaho Youth Ranch Thrift Store in Nampa
- Le Peep, a breakfast chain restaurant, in Meridian
- Corner Bakery in Meridian
- St. Luke's Fruitland Medical Plaza
- Family Dollar in Marsing

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SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BLAINE COUNTY

- The Ketchum Innovation Center, the area's first incubator, has attracted several small business service companies since opening in February including engineering services, an advertising/Web developer firm that also produces magazines and books, and a video production company. The tenants pay a flat monthly fee for space in Ketchum's light industrial park and are provided mentoring and advice when needed.
- Sun Valley Resort reported an 11 percent decline in the number of skiers and snowboarders at Bald Mountain and Dollar Mountain this past season. Skier count dropped from 386,000 to 348,000. By comparison, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort saw a 12 percent increase. Jackson is bigger than the communities in Blaine County, has more air service skiing options, and other winter activities are available in nearby national parks. Jackson Hole had 527 inches of snowfall and Grand Targhee 480 inches this past season – much more than Sun Valley. Jackson Hole was also rated the top ski resort in the nation by Ski magazine last fall, increasing its cachet.
- The U.S. Geological Survey has installed four of six planned precipitation gauges in the Wood River Valley area. The gauges have been strategically placed to warn of flooding danger in the area hit hardest by last year's Beaver Creek fire. The last two gauges will be installed once snowpack is melted in the higher elevation.
- Rocky Mountain Hardware, which has plants in Shoshone and Hailey, has earned industry recognition for the third year in a row. Its barn door track was named best of the year in the hardware category by Interior Design magazine.

JEROME COUNTY

- Jerome High School is expanding its agriculture education program to meet a growing need. This fall the program will expand the number of courses from 11 to 19, adding upper-level animal science and food science among other offerings. Classes will be expanded from 24 with two teachers to 36 with three teachers. About 40 percent of the students have taken agriculture classes in the past. That should increase to about

60 percent. Students will also earn dual college credits from the College of Southern Idaho because of the addition of the science courses. The program provides pathways to careers in agricultural mechanics, plant science, animal science and food science and offers hands-on learning for students to develop skills applicable in real life. The program is also piloting a dairy product manufacturing course with the curriculum developed in partnership with Jerome Cheese and South Dakota State University.

MINIDOKA AND CASSIA COUNTIES

- Stoker Milk Co. of Burley, acquired a year ago by Boise Milk Co., is expanding into Twin Falls. Boise Milk owner Andrew Stolworthy updated the bottling line and is developing the business with deliveries in both glass and plastic bottles. Demand is driven by convenience in some cases while other customers believe the milk tastes fresher delivered within 36 hours of milking. The company now delivers milk to about 2,300 people throughout southwestern Idaho and 130 in Minidoka and Cassia counties. The milk is hormone free from a dairy in Wendell.
- Frulact Co. of Portugal will set up a temporary research and development laboratory in Rupert while its new plant is being built. Frulact is building its first United States fruit processing plant in Idaho.

TWIN FALLS COUNTY

- Twin Falls continues to increase hotel space with a Marriott Fairfield Inn and Suites. This follows openings of the former Westin Inn as a boutique hotel renamed the Blue Lakes Inn. Local businessman Jim Paxton is the owner.
- Filer's Everton Mattress Factory has been sold after operating as a family business for 80 years. The company builds and ships more than 45,000 mattresses and box springs annually with just 26 employees. No changes are anticipated with the sale.
- Next fall, the Refugee Center will expand and remodel its building. It will add approximately 1,378 square feet and remodel an existing 1,000 square feet for about \$300,000. The College of Southern Idaho is the financial agent for the Refugee Center and leased the building for eight years before purchasing it last July. The program began in 1980. It serves between 400 to 450 people a year with nine full-time and several part-time employees. The center typically resettles a third of the refugees in the state, according to director Ron Black.
- The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality is beginning a statewide survey to estimate fish consumption to ensure human health is protected through quality water. The telephone survey is being conducted from April 2014 to April 2015, randomly selecting residents to see how much fish they eat and from which sources. Anglers will be directed toward an Internet survey to strengthen the quality of the data. Water issues surrounding aquaculture are critical to south central Idaho since both Gooding and Twin Falls counties have major hatchery and fish farming operations

- Chobani will continue expanding to handle new products and new markets with the help of \$750 million from private equity firm TPG Capital. The deal could allow TPG to secure as much as 35 percent of the company, much of that prospect tied to Chobani possibly going public in 2015. Chobani founder Hambdi Ulukaya would remain chairman of the board and retain majority control in that event.
- The Idaho Department of Labor hosted three job fairs at its Twin Falls office for Cactus Pete's Jackpot casino and the new Culver's fast food restaurant. The businesses wanted to fill about 100 jobs.

CLOSURES

- Wings Charter Middle School in Twin Falls because of high operating costs and declining enrollment.
- MaRozie, a young women's apparel store in Twin Falls, after five years
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SOUTHEASTERN & EASTERN IDAHO

Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Butte, Caribou, Clark, Custer, Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, Oneida & Power counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BANNOCK COUNTY

- Pocatello will be home to a new semi-professional baseball team this summer. The Gate City Grays held an open tryout in May and will play its first game June 6.
- May 5 marked the official opening of the new Holiday Inn Express and Suites, filling a demand for more upscale accommodations for business travelers. The 80-room hotel employs 20 and features two large conference rooms and suites with full-sized appliances and other comforts.

BONNEVILLE COUNTY

- The Eastern Idaho Technical College Foundation distributed more than \$180,000 in scholarship money on April 30 at the annual EITC Scholarship Ceremony. The foundation awarded 171 scholarships ranging from \$250 to \$2,500.

ONEIDA COUNTY

- Malad and Oneida County will be celebrating their sesquicentennial in June – 150 years since Henry Pack, a native of upstate New York, moved with his family to the area and became a leader of organizing the city and county. From June 27-29 the city will hold its annual Welsh Festival celebrating all things Welsh including music, food, games and folklore. The festival has drawn visitors from as far away as the United Kingdom.

MADISON COUNTY

- Brigham Young University-Idaho plans to make research a priority. Senior Paul Powell was one of 60 students nationwide to present undergraduate research in Washington, D.C., to policy makers. The university has taken a series of steps recently to expand its undergraduate research opportunities such as establishing the College of Faculty Development and Men-

tored Research to better promote mentored student research projects such as Powell's. The school has also have encouraged faculty to adopt a slightly reduced teaching load to allow for more professional development time, which can include mentored research. So far, about half the faculty have done so.

- Will Jenson, who had serve four years as regional economist for the Idaho Department of Labor in eastern Idaho, is the new director of business research for the Entrepreneurial Center in Rexburg. Jenson will oversee more than 100 research projects the center undertakes annually. The Entrepreneurial Center is a nonprofit group specializing in short- and long-term economic research for businesses and municipal entities in 16 eastern Idaho counties. It maintains strong ties with Brigham Young University-Idaho and Idaho State University by providing internships and work experience to many senior-level business students.

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For the most current state and national economic indicators, view the Idaho labor market website at labor.idaho.gov/lmi.

State of Idaho Data — State Economic Indicators

	Apr 2014**	Mar 2014*	Apr 2013	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
IDAHO LABOR FORCE ⁽¹⁾					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	778,600	777,100	775,800	0.2	0.4
Unemployment	38,800	40,600	49,900	-4.4	-22.2
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	5.0	5.2	6.4		
Total Employment	739,800	736,500	725,900	0.4	1.9
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	774,700	772,900	768,800	0.2	0.8
Unemployment	38,400	46,900	55,000	-18.1	-30.2
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	5.0	6.1	7.2		
Total Employment	736,300	726,000	713,800	1.4	3.2
U. S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁽²⁾					
	Apr 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2013		
	6.3	6.7	7.5		
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE				% Change From	
	Apr 2014**	Mar 2014*	Apr 2013	Last Month	Last Year
Claims Activities					
Initial Claims ⁽³⁾	6,576	7,174	8,414	-8.3	-21.8
Weeks Claimed ⁽⁴⁾	48,932	73,797	74,207	-33.7	-34.1
Benefit Payment Activities ⁽⁵⁾					
Weeks Compensated	47,370	52,838	60,411	-10.3	-21.6
Total Benefit \$ Paid	\$13,004,822.95	\$14,517,800.13	\$15,414,069.43	-10.4	-15.6
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$274.54	\$274.76	\$255.15	-0.1	7.6
Covered Employers	47,211	47,211	46,666	0.0	1.2
Total Benefit \$ Paid During Last 12 Months ⁽⁴⁾	\$132,878,505	\$135,287,751	\$167,549,417	-1.8	-20.7
U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ⁽²⁾					
	Apr 2014	Mar 2013	Apr 2013	% Change Month	% Change Year
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)	233.44	232.56	228.95	0.4	2.0
All Urban Consumer (CPI-U)	237.07	236.29	232.53	0.3	2.0

**Forecast data

* Preliminary estimate

(2) Unadjusted. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(3) Includes all entitlements on intrastate and interstate agent, new and additional claims.

(4) Includes all entitlements, intrastate and interstate agent.

(5) Includes all entitlements, total liable activities.

Glossary of Labor Market Terms

Agriculture Employment: Persons on agriculture payrolls who work or receive pay for any period during the survey week. This includes owners, operators, unpaid family members who work at least 15 hours a week, and hired laborers.

Average Hourly Earnings/Average Weekly Hours: The average total money earnings earned by production or non-supervisory workers for selected industries. The average number of hours worked by production or non-supervisory workers including overtime, paid vacation, and sick leave. The data is collected for the week including the 12th of the month.

Average Weekly Earnings: Average Hourly Earnings multiplied by Average Weekly Hours.

Civilian Labor Force: A count of non-institutional persons 16 years of age and over residing within a specific geographic area, excluding members of armed forces, who are classified as employed, unemployed and seeking employment, or involved in a labor dispute.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): A national index measuring changes over time in the price of a fixed market basket of goods and services. There are two indexes—the All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) represents the buying habits of about 80 percent of the non-institutional population of the United States, and the Urban Wage & Clerical Workers (CPI-W) represents 40 percent of the population.

Covered Employers: Employers who are subject to state and federal Unemployment Insurance laws.

Durable Goods: Also known as “hard goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers with a normal life expectancy of three years or more.

Employed: Individuals, 16 years of age or older, who worked at least 1 hour for pay or profit or worked at least 15 unpaid hours in a family business during the week including the 12th day of the month. Individuals are also counted as employed if they had a job but did not work because they were: ill, on vacation, in a labor dispute, prevented from working because of bad weather, or temporarily absent for similar reasons.

Initial Claim: Any notice of unemployment filed to request (1) a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation or (2) a second or subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA): A county or a combination of counties in which at least half the residents live in an urban center of 50,000 or more and the rest have significant commuting ties to that central county. The Office of Management and Budget designates the MSAs. Idaho has five MSAs: Boise MSA including Ada, Canyon, Boise, Gem and Owyhee counties; Bonneville MSA including Bonneville and Jefferson counties; Pocatello MSA including Bannock and Power counties; Lewiston MSA including Nez Perce County and Asotin County, Wash.; Coeur d’Alene MSA including Kootenai County.

Micropolitan Statistical Area (MicSA): Combinations of counties in which at least half the residents live in urban centers totaling at least 10,000—or 5,000 living in a single urban center—and the rest have significant commuting ties to that central county. The Office of Management and Budget designates the MicSAs. Idaho has three MicSAs: Burley MicSA including Cassia and Minidoka counties; Rexburg MicSA including Madison and Fremont counties; Twin Falls MicSA including Twin Falls and Jerome counties.

Glossary of Labor Market Terms (cont.)

Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment: Persons on nonfarm establishment payrolls (including employees on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation) who work or receive pay for any part of the week including the 12th of the month. It is a count of jobs by place of work. It does not include self-employed, unpaid volunteer or family workers, domestic workers in households, military personnel and persons who are laid off, on leave without pay, or on strike for the entire reference period.

Nondurable Goods: Also known as “soft goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers that generally last for only a short period of time (three years or less).

Seasonally Adjusted: Data is seasonally adjusted to remove the impact of regular events that occur at the same time every year such as the effect of cold weather on outdoor activities, the Christmas holiday, or the summer influx of youth into the labor market.

Small Labor Market Areas (SLMA): Combinations of counties with significant ties through commuting patterns but no urban centers with populations of 10,000 or more. The Office of Management and Budget designates the SLMAs. Idaho has two SLMAs: Hailey SLMA including Blaine and Camas counties; Grangeville SLMA including Lewis and Idaho counties.

Unemployed: Those individuals, 16 years of age or older, who do not have a job but are available for work and actively seeking work during the week including the 12th of the month. The only exceptions to these criteria are individuals who are waiting to be recalled from a layoff and individuals waiting to report to a new job within 30 days—these, too, are considered unemployed.

Unemployment Insurance: Unemployment Insurance is a program for the accumulation of funds paid by employers, to be used for the payment of Unemployment Insurance to workers during periods of unemployment which are beyond their control.

Unemployment Rate: The number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labor force.

Weekly Benefit Amount: The amount payable to a claimant for a compensable week of total unemployment.

Weeks Claimed: The number of weeks that unemployed workers claimed Unemployment Insurance benefits.

Weeks Compensated: The number of weeks for which compensation was actually paid.

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